

REMARKS

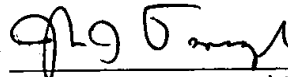
The present amendment is prepared in accordance with the new revised requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121. A complete listing of all the claims in the application is shown above showing the status of each claim. For currently amended claims, inserted material is underlined and deleted material has a line therethrough.

The subject Amendment is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal. Reconsideration is requested in view of the amendments above and the remarks below.

The claims have been amended to clarify that the method is directed to removing contaminants from an article surface. Basis for the amendments may be found, for example, on page 8, the paragraph beginning at line 3. It is respectfully submitted that the references of record do not show such a method.

It is respectfully submitted that the application has now been brought into a condition where allowance of the case is proper. Reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowance are respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner not find the claims to be allowable, Applicants' attorney respectfully requests that the Examiner call the undersigned to clarify any issue and/or to place the case in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Name: Carol M. Thomas Date: May 19, 2003 Signature: 